

Safety Review Committee

April 19, 2002

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Minutes

Members Present

Dennis Collins (for Augusto Macchiavelli), Sharon Doyle, Ben Feinberg (Chair), Mack Kennedy, Ed Lampo (Secretary), Peter Lichty (for Robin Wendt), Donald Lucas, Steven Lundgren, Dennis Nielsen (for John Bowerman), Linfeng Rao, Arthur Ritchie, Linda Smith, Ted Sopher, Scott Taylor, Pat Thomas (for Othon Monteiro), Weyland Wong, Hisao Yokota

Members Absent

Joel Ager, Ronald Madaras, Linda Wuy

Others Present

Don Bell, Matt Kotowski, Gary Zeman, Otis Wong

Previous Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM by the SRC chair, Ben Feinberg. The March minutes were approved as submitted.

Old Business

A memo requesting some institutional support for ergo upgrades was drafted by Ben and forwarded to EH&S for review prior to sending to Sally Benson. David McGraw pointed out that Klaus Berkner, as then Deputy Director of Operations, had turned down a similar request. Ben wants the support of EH&S for this initiative and will so pursue.

A draft MOU for Matrix Staff was presented at March meeting at which time the SRC members were requested to take draft MOU to their divisions for discussion and to bring comments back to SRC. So far comments have come from only one division. As follow up it is suggested that Matrix MOU be put on a future agenda.

Status of Pending MESH Reviews

Chemical Sciences MESH has scheduled May 8 meeting with division. Scott Taylor, Chemical Sciences MESH team leader, would like clarification of Campus MOU. Otis Wong stated that this issue is currently being negotiated.

Computing Sciences MESH has meeting scheduled with division on April 18 and inspection the following week. Expect to be completed in early May.

EH&S MESH has scheduled visit and inspection set for May 1. Expected completion and presentation is in June or July.

Materials Sciences MESH is scheduled to begin in August.

LBNL Accident Statistics

Matt Kotowski presented an analysis of LBNL accident data. The Total Recordable Case Rates (TRC) and Lost Workday Case Rates (LWC) were significantly reduced during the last two years. The TRC rates improved from almost four cases per 200,000 hours worked to approximately 2.5 cases. Similarly LWC rates went from nearly 2.5 cases to slightly more than one case per 200,000 hours worked. The site wide TRC records from July 2001 through March 2002 show three organizations with rates significantly greater than the Appendix F goal. Notwithstanding, the overall present values for both TRC and LWC rates are between Good and Excellent as scored by our contract. Matt pointed out that the goal is ~2 injuries per 200,000 hours worked, which is ~1 per 50 years. Noting that there are categories with higher accident rates (e.g., firefighters, plumbers, etc.), then to compensate for those higher rates the average employee would need to say have ~1 accident per 100 years – which is in essence a zero accident rate. Our goal is to be accident free. Winning strategies are:

- Strong & visible management support
- Senior line personnel manage safety program
- Safety responsibilities clearly defined & assigned -- everyone held accountable
- All division personnel actively involved in safety
- Spaces & work practices are reviewed frequently & in detail
- Prompt & conscientious follow-up for accidents & correction of deficiencies
- Effective collaboration among employees & with EH&S

These strategies should be pursued as part of the MESH reviews. Matt agreed to send an electronic copy of his presentation to Ed, who in turn will forward to SRC members.

Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee

Linda Smith, chair of SRC's Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee (EPS), discussed the duties and responsibilities of this group. EPS membership is comprised of 14 members, from across all of Berkeley Lab. The major purpose of EPS is preparing for potential disasters that might strike LBL; e.g., wildland fires, earthquakes, power outages, terrorism. EPS responds to initial disaster and participates in the recovery process thereafter. Berkeley Lab and EPS have liaison programs with several emergency response agencies, these include: Hills (Oakland-Berkeley) Emergency Forum, California Emergency Services Association, UC Berkeley Office of Emergency Preparedness, Oakland Office of Emergency Services, International Association of Emergency Managers, DOE *Energy.gov*. Some of the major initiatives of EPS are:

- Earthquake Safety Classes
- Building Emergency Training
- EHS-10 (new employee orientation)
- Coordination of First Aid/CPR/Fire Extinguisher classes
- Lab's Fire Evacuation video, "May I Have Your Attention, Please"
- Founding Member of Hills Emergency Forum
- Sponsor & Participant in *California's 2001 Wildlife Conference and Public Events: 10 Years After the 1991 East Bay Hills Fire (October, 2001)*
- Emergency Preparedness Web Page Redesign
- Coordination of LBNL Event Center ("Command Center")
- Setup Initial Assessment Team

Future plans for EPS include:

- Rewriting & Updating EP Plans/Documents
- Geographic Information System (GIS) Capability in Emergency Event Center
- Continue to update/upgrade EP Training
 - Bldg. Emergency Team refresher classes*
- Emergency Response Pocket Guide
- Drills and Exercises
 - Annual EQ Duck-Cover-Hold drill on May 16*
 - Berkeley Alert*
- Multi-Agency Terrorism Response Exercise
 - June 6, 2002 – 9:00-11:00 AM*

External Regulation at Berkeley Lab

Gary Zeman presented an update of possible regulation of Berkeley Lab by other than DOE. An electronic copy of his presentation has been sent to SRC members. Follows is a brief summary of that presentation.

Background

Some five years ago LBNL participated in a pilot study of utilizing external regulation at the National Laboratories. Three years ago DOE dropped this pilot -- now it looks somewhat likely. LBNL is currently externally regulated by EPA and state and local agencies overseeing waste management and environmental effluents. The lab is subject to routine inspections and is in compliance in all areas.

Recent Events

- October 2001 – House Appropriations Committee subcommittee on Energy & Water tasked DOE:
 - Prepare a plan for all 10 SC Labs to transition to external regulation by US NRC and OSHA by 2004.
 - Plan due to Congress by end of May 2002
- External Regulation task Force (ERTF):
 - SC (Anibal Taboas) has the lead, supported by EH (Gene Runkle)
 - 4 teams (#1 = LBNL, PNNL, SLAC; #2 = ORNL, ANL, BNL; #3 = TJ, Fermi, PPPL, Ames, #4= Policy)
- April 19th update: Individual Team reports near complete.
 - Team 1 (PNNL, LBNL, SLAC) ready for and support beginning a transition to external regulation (with conditions)
 - Other Teams less favorable
 - DOE has not yet formed any cohesive plan or vision of a new corporate model for operations under external regulation
- April 22-26: Closed writing session at DOE HQ.
 - Draw from Team reports to prepare final report draft
 - Draft final report to be sent to Lab Directors and Site Office managers for review
 - Intend to meet May deadline to Congress

OSHA found 62 violations at LBNL during the recent test inspection. These have been mitigated down to ~6 outstanding items. This inspection and the subsequent actions might well be a future SRC agenda item.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Lampo

Next Scheduled SRC Meeting:
June 21, 2002
10:00 AM – Noon
Bldg. 90-Rm. 1099